

The

December
2006



Trainmaster

The Official Publication of the
Pacific Northwest Chapter,
National Railway Historical Society
Portland, Oregon



Pacific Northwest Chapter Timetable #533

Membership Meeting: Dec 12 setup starts at 6 PM, potluck begins at 6:30 PM, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 SE Powell Blvd.

December Program: Elections and Potluck, Interested in program presentation? See p. 12

January 19th Program: 50th Anniversary of the Farewell to Steam Excursion (June 10, 2006), featuring the SP&S 700, DVD by Brian McCamish.

Board of Directors Meetings: Nov 30, Jan 11, Room 208, Union Station, 7:30 PM

Lending Library: Dec 23, & 30, 1:30 to 4 pm, check-out subject to loan agreement.

December 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17: *Holiday Express*, Oaks Amusement Park, www.TicketsWest.com or Safeway TicketsWest Ticket Centers or 503.224.TIXX (outside of Portland 800.992.TIXX).

Please Carefully Note Change of Date for December Membership Meeting: Dec 12 – starting at 6 PM!!!!

Notable Non-Chapter Events:

Dec 2-3, 9-10, 16-17 *Snowball Express*, Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad, Departs Mineral WA @ 10 AM, 12 Noon & 2 PM, 360.569.2351 or www.mrsr.com

Dec 2-3, 9-10, 16-17 *Chelatchie Prairie RR Christmas Tree Train*, Departs Yacolt WA @ 9:30, 12 noon, 2:30 PM, www.bycx.com or 360.686.3559

Dec 1-3, 8-10, 15-17 *Mt. Hood Railroad Christmas Tree Trips*, Hood River, 800.872.4661 or www.mthoodrr.com

Dec 16 *BNSF Railway Holiday Employee Appreciation* with the SP&S 700, Vancouver WA

Dec. 16 *Amtrak Holiday Open House*, 1 – 5 PM, Portland Union Station with SP&S 700 & Santa visit.

Jan 20 *SP&S Historical Society Swap Meet*, 10 AM – 3 PM, Holiday Inn Portland Airport

Jan 17-18 *World's Greatest Hobby on Tour*, Portland Expo Center, 10 AM to 5 PM, www.wghshow.com

May 18-20 *GorgeRail 2007*, Columbia Gorge Discover Center, The Dalles, www.dogcaught.com/gorgerail

~ ~ PROPOSED MISSION STATEMENT ~ ~

To preserve and interpret Pacific Northwest railroad history and historical artifacts for the education and enjoyment of current and future generations.

The above proposed Mission Statement has been developed by Eileen Brazil and the Chapter Board of Directors and is recommended to the membership for adoption at the December 12th membership meeting.

NOTICE ~ ~ PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE ~ ~ NOTICE

The Chapter Board of Directors is recommending the following Chapter By-Law change to be voted on at the December Membership meeting:

Section 2.06. Dues. Dues shall consist of National dues and chapter dues. Members joining after June 1st of any year shall pay one-half of the dues for the balance of the year. Members joining after September 1st of any year shall pay full annual dues, which will cover National and chapter dues for the ensuing year. For each family member, dues shall be approximately 50% of full local dues. All memberships shall expire on December 31st of each year.

Recommendation: Delete the sentence: "Members joining after June 1st of any year shall pay one-half of the dues for the balance of the year."

Board Rationale: This makes the chapter consistent with the National membership rules.

OREGON RAIL HERITAGE FOUNDATION PRESENTS



Join Santa and his elves on the Holiday Express! 40-minute roundtrip departs from Oaks Park on the Oregon Pacific Railroad.

Departures times: Friday: 2,3,4,6,7,8 Saturday & Sunday: 10,11, Noon, 2,3,4,6,7,8
December 8-10 & 15-17, 2006

Children's prices and family packages available.
Visit www.TicketsWest.com or call 503.224.TIXX
(toll-free 800.992.TIXX)

Absentee Ballots for Chapter Elections:

"The annual PNWC-NRHS election of officers for 2007 will be held at the chapter meeting in December. Those wishing to vote by absentee ballot must submit their request to me, in writing (no phone calls, please) to **James Loomis, 12440 SE Stephens Street, Portland OR 97233-1336**, either by U.S. Mail or e-mail (james_loomis12440@msn.com) by December 1st. You will receive a ballot, with instructions and return envelopes. Ballots will be due, either by mail, or by hand **NO LATER THAN 6 P.M.** the day of the election. Postmarks will **not** count. Plan approximately 3-5 days for mail delivery.

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE ~ December 2006 by Arlen L. Sheldrake

As we move into a very busy December I would like to wish that each of you receiving *The Trainmaster* have a very happy Holiday. Hopefully you will also have the opportunity to make the Holiday for someone else a happy event whether it is *Train Toys for Tots*, working the *Holiday Express* event or some other helping others activity.

So much for thinking that **metal theft** was less of a problem on the Oregon Coast than here in the Willamette Valley. On October 24th we were notified that one or more of our rail cars stored in Tillamook had been broken in to by metal thieves. On the 25th Pete Rodabaugh and I went to Tillamook and found that metal thieves had gained access to both RDC-9 units stealing small amounts of wire from the electrical cabinets and some loss under the cars. The cars were located in a wide open area near the Blimp Hanger within shouting distance of the Sheriff's office.

PRPA is taking the **SP&S 700** on a BNSF Railway move to Vancouver WA for a December 16th BNSF Railway Employee Holiday event. The 700 is expected to carry Santa and visit Portland's Union Station during the northward move.

During the October 28-29 weekend our **Webmaster Mark Whitson** did some extensive updating to the Chapter Web site: www.pnwc-nrhs.org. Of special significance is Mark's addition of a neat banner hyping the *Holiday Express* with a link to www.orhf.org for additional information. Also take a look at the Events page and the special announcements at the top. Thanks Mark!

Did you appreciate receiving **NRHS News** issues for both September and October? While many of us long term NRHS members have been critical of the declining NRHS member services, we should also take the opportunity to compliment Charles Williams, the Editor of the NRHS News for his good work. Take a moment and send Charles a note of appreciation, let him know that there are NRHS members out here that appreciate his work.

Beginning with the November issue of *The Trainmaster* printing is being done by **Buel's Impressions Printing** in Oregon City. On October 28th the Chapter received notice from **Oregon Quality Printing (OQP)** in Gladstone, our printer for many years, was closing effective November 1st and all equipment and accounts had been purchased by Dave Buel. We will miss our good relationship with Al and Nancy Sheakley, owners of OQP, and wish them the best in their retirement. Al and Nancy did good work for a reasonable price, bailed us out of some tight timelines and were fun to work with.

A November 2nd *Oregonian* article described a plan by Clark County to put a 33-mile trail along side the **Chelatchie Prairie Railroad** line from Burnt Bridge Creek in Vancouver to Battle Ground, Yacolt and Chelatchie Prairie. The trail will parallel the rail line owned by Clark County. Planning and design money is now in hand and will begin in January. Construction of the first segment, 4-miles between the former Battle Ground fairgrounds and Battle Ground State Park, will begin in 2008. The trail will be designed for hikers, bikers and horseback riders.

The Columbian Basin Herald newspaper reports October 31st that the **Port of Quincy** in central Washington received the first loaded rail car on October 30th at their relatively new intermodal train yard served by BNSF Railway. The load was 1,800 four by eight foot sheets of cement board.

On November 4th a group of about 15 brave souls turned out in rain gear to pick up litter on the Oregon Pacific Railroad between Oaks Amusement Park and the north Springwater Trailhead. All were pleasantly surprised at how little litter had accumulated since the PRPA members did a pickup before the June *Return to Steam* event and were pleased that the rain monsoon held off until later in the day. This was done in preparation for the *Holiday Express 2006* which will run out of the Oaks Amusement Park station and run north to the Springwater trailhead. Oregon Pacific Railroad owner Dick Samuels is in the process of installing a light pole and electrical service at his Oaks Park Station.

Early on November 5th **Portland & Western Railroad** had a train derail near Sixth Avenue and Lafayette Streets in Albany. Seven empty lumber cars derailed with one smashing a resident's vehicle, another breaking their fence and a third striking their house. The Albany Democrat-Herald quoted the home owner: "the railroad took immediate action on Sunday to make things right at her house. Workers sprayed foam into the side of the house to fill a hole, and the company rented a new Dodge Durango for the family to use." Way to go Portland & Western, you took lemons and made lemonade.

The October 28th Corvallis Gazette-Times reports that Congressman Peter DeFazio has sent a letter to Union Pacific CEO Jim Young requesting the donation of the **Bailey Branch** (sometimes known as Lower West Side Branch). The 15-mile branch line has been offered for sale by UP for \$2.1 million. Shippers on the line include the historic steam powered Hull-Oakes Lumber Mill, Western Pulp Products and a number of farming operations. The line is operated by Willamette & Pacific Railroad which leases the track from UP. The line is plagued by rotting ties and light-gauge rail which limits speeds in some areas to 5 MPH. It is unclear who if anyone would accept the donation if UP were so inclined. The Bailey Branch runs from Alpine Junction to Dawson south of Corvallis.

Thanks to **Tom Smith** and **Joe Wright** for their November *Trainmaster* articles. Contributions like these keep our monthly newsletter interesting, informative and entertaining. Do you have an article lurking in your mind????

Once the **Washington County Commuter Rail** project P811 Track Renewal Machine moved north to Greton, Portland & Western Railroad implemented north and south detours beginning November 10th over PTR/BNSF/UP between Linnton and Salem in order to reconnect the northern and southern portions of their Oregon operations. Also of note is that on October 30th TriMet issued a Notice to Manufacture to Colorado Rail Car for three motorized DMUs and one trailer car. First vehicle delivery is expected in spring 2008 with the others arriving by July 2008. Project Director Joe Walsh has resigned and has been replaced by promoting Ken Kirse who will retain his Construction and Integration Manager responsibilities with assistance from the new Deputy Project Manager Steve Witter. So far we have not been successful in convincing TriMet that a Fact Sheet outlining all the rail improvements would be a good document to publish.

Congratulations to our friend **Bill Bain** who won election to the 2-year position of Mayor of Newport Oregon. Bill had been serving as the Council appointed Mayor after the former Mayor was recalled. Bill is also President of the Yaquina Pacific Railroad Historical Society (Toledo), former PNWC member, PNWC President (1976 & 1977) and a speeder operator.

Nice to see two of the operational historic locomotives stored in the Portland area back in temporary revenue service: the **ALCO RSD-5 Nickel Plate Road #324** is on lease to the Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad and the **EMD F7A DLM 274** is on lease to Portland & Western Railroad. This will provide rail photographers some unique opportunities. Both locomotives are owned by Doyle McCormack.

While flipping through the channels on a rainy November Sunday, I stumbled on the movie **The Dust Factory** playing on The Movie Channel. This movie was shot mostly in Oregon (some real nice Oregon scenery) and back in 2002 the Chapter leased to the producers the Chapter cars 6200 and Mt. Hood with the 3300 also being used by mistake. The movie was copyrighted in 2004 and is distributed by MGM Distribution. Just two short railroad segments and you could miss them if you're not paying attention. No credits are listed for the Portland & Western Railroad or the Chapter.

The early November floodwaters significantly damaged two Oregon shortline railroads. Specific damage to the Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad wasn't available at press time (scheduled to reopen November 18th) but the November 15th Hood River News reported the following damage to the **Mt. Hood Railroad**: significant trestle damage, 150 feet of track at milepost .5 washed out, 300 feet of track at milepost .7 damaged, and 150 feet of track suspended in the air at milepost 15. MHRH trips were canceled through at least November 25th. Repairs will be focused first on the Hood River to Odell section so that Polar Express runs can be rescheduled. Without grant funding, Michelle Marquart, rail manager, said the privately owned railroad would be forced into bankruptcy.

2007 Meeting Snack Sign-Ups

Meeting Snack Sign-Ups

The following members have graciously volunteered to prepare the monthly (3rd Friday) membership meeting snacks funded by attendee contributions:

January = *available*

February = Diana & Darel Mack

March = *available*

April = *available*

May = *available*

June = *available*

July = *available*

August = *available*

September = *available*

October = *available*

November = *available*

December = Potluck

To volunteer for *available* months, please contact Arlen at 503.223.7006 or email to: ASheldrake@comcast.net.

SIX FIGURE NET ACHIEVED!

At the November 17th Chapter membership meeting *Go By Train 2005* NRHS Convention Finance/Ticketing Chair George Hickok presented Chapter President Arlen Sheldrake with a check for \$20,155.54 bringing the net income to the Pacific Northwest Chapter to \$105,155.54 and net income to NRHS of \$30,038.88 for the July 2005 National Convention held in Portland.

George reported that this fund distribution represents almost all of the net Convention proceeds but that the final accounting is nearing but isn't yet finished.

Putting on a National Convention is big business. Total funds processed were nearly \$700,000 and 2,112 room nights were booked at the Lloyd Center DoubleTree Hotel. Events were very well attended with an estimated 1,331 people attending the Convention.

Many, many people made this event the success it was both in attendee enjoyment and Chapter/NRHS income. The official volunteer roster included 96 people. To this number should be added members of the other helping organizations who contributed a great deal to the success of the Convention. The Convention planning process was a three year effort by our core Committee Chairs.

Everyone who helped should again feel very pleased that your efforts paid off so well in attendee appreciation and enjoyment as well as record net income for both the Chapter and NRHS.

Here are the unofficial final ticket sale counts:

Union Station in-bound shuttles: 187
Lewis & Clark Explorer: 398
TriMet Ruby Junction Tour: 92
Western Star Steam Double Header: 542
Willamette Shore Trolley: 106
Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad: 463
Sternwheeler Rose: 54
Columbia Gorge Tour: 99

Roundhouse Night Photo Shoot: 89
Brooklyn Roundhouse Tour: 480
Seminars: 596
Banquet: 533
Mt. Rainier Scenic Railway: 406
Oregon Zoo: 49
Union Station out-bound shuttles: 86

WINTER HIATUS



The Flanger restoration project at Antique Powerland Museum is taking a break for the Winter and until better weather returns.

This November 16th photo shows the plastic sheeting applied over the exposed studs to protect from weather damage. The purchased and painted exterior siding is stored and awaits better weather and helping hands. If you would like to help, get on the list to be notified once work parties begin in the Spring by contacting either: Charles Stevens 503.692.6611 or email: xenophon@teleport.com or Eileen Brazil 503.647.5667 or email: ladydeere@yahoo.com.

Licensing Income Supports Union Pacific History

Omaha, Neb., August 1, 2006 UP News Release

Union Pacific's trademark licensing program protects the integrity of the names and trademarks owned by Union Pacific by controlling commercial use of those marks. As a result of growth in the program and in response to suggestions from model railroaders and railroad historical societies, Union Pacific will allocate income generated by the licensing program to support UP's Heritage programs, including the railroad's steam program, heritage passenger fleet and museum.

Union Pacific's commitment to preserve railroad history began in the 1920s when UP President Car Gray called on employees and retirees to help create the Union Pacific Museum.

"President Gray's foresight created the oldest corporate museum in the nation and laid the foundation for Union Pacific's longstanding commitment to preserving railroad heritage," said Bob Turner, senior vice president – Corporate Relations. "Union Pacific has moved far beyond the museum envisioned by President Gray. We now maintain the most prestigious operating steam program in the nation, an unsurpassed fleet of historic passenger cars, and six new heritage locomotives painted to honor legendary railroads."

Union Pacific has licensed dozens of manufacturers to produce and distribute items bearing the company's trademarks, including Union Pacific products that are available at retailers including Urban Outfitters, Wal-Mart and Target.

Chapter Officers

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Ralph Johnson (05, 06, 07) 503.654.1930
Jim Hokinson (finish out 2006, 07 term) 503.635.4826
Mark Reynolds (06, 07, 08) 638.7411
Charles Stevens (06, 07, 08) 503.692.6611
William D. Hyde (04, 05, 06) 503. 666. 5530

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Membership: Diana Mack, 503. 723.3345
Museum: Glenn Laubaugh, 503. 655.5466
Flanger Restoration: Eileen Brazil 503.647.5667
Meeting Programs: Ralph Johnson 503. 654.1930
Rolling Stock: vacant, contact President, above
Chief Mechanical Officer:
Peter Rodabaugh, 503. 771.8545
Car Rental Agent: Bob Jackson, 503. 231.4808
Library: Irv Ewen 503.232-2441

Excursions: Jim Long 503.313.7382

Car Host: vacant, contact President, above

Safety Officer: Keith Fleschner 503.516.9272

Webmaster: Mark Whitson 503.533.7005



The Trainmaster is the official news-

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Attn.: Trainmaster Editor

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Inside this Trainmaster:

- Proposed Mission Statement (p. 1)
- Proposed ByLaw Change (page 2)
- Holliday Express (page 2)
- Absentee Ballots (page 3)
- President's Update (page 3)
- Meeting Snack Sign-Up* (page 5)
- Six Figure Net! (page 5)
- Flanger Winter Break (page 6)
- UP Licence Income (page 7)

Please sign up for meeting snacks (page 5) or rolling stock help, or flanger restoration, or meeting programs. *If interested in presenting a meeting program please call Ralph Johnson at 503-654-1930.*

The chapter is a volunteer organization, and to function it needs the help of those who are members. Please consider what **you** are able to **do**.

Please note correspondence containing address changes on the exterior of the envelope for fastest processing.

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